

De Gull Wing

Two Dollars

"FOR MEMBERS ONLY"

July/August 1985
Volume 4 Number 1

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION FOR OVER 3000 MEMBERS OF THE DELOREAN MOTOR CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.

MEXICO CRUISE UPDATE

Are you still thinking about our Mexican cruise vacation? Well, let me update you on the details of this exciting trip.

WHEN: February 28 - March 6, 1986

WHERE: Mexico - with stops in Mazatlan, Puerto Vallarta and Cabo San Lucas.

ABOARD: Sundance Cruises: MV: STARDANCER.

WITH: Other DeLorean owners, their family and friends.

ACTIVITIES: "Welcome Aboard" cocktail party, two formal Captain's

dinners and a masquerade party. DeLorean automobiles will be on display, along with the latest accessories. You will be able to participate in technical seminars and talk to DeLorean engineers and other DeLorean owners.

The MV:STARDANCER also offers to her guests: lounge shows, swimming pool and spas, a casino, passenger's talent show, shore excursions, exquisite dining and dancing.

PRICES: Range from \$675 to \$1625.

DEPOSIT: \$200 per person along with a port tax charge of \$27.00. Due 7 days after verbal reservation.

BALANCE DUE: January 1, 1986.

We are still taking reservations even though the deadline date has passed. The availability of choice cabins will become limited the closer it gets to cruise time.

If you wish to extend your stay in California, you may do so for a period of 30 days or less, around the time of the cruise. The extended time must be established at the time of reservation.

You have the choice of an \$80.00 reduction in the cruise fare or you may fly free round trip from any of the major airports listed in the cruise brochure.

Why not take a moment now and decide to join us on a fun-filled cruise to Mexico! Call and make your reservations today! (714) 847-9940 or (714) 842-4087.



DELOREAN STREET SIGN

We now have available to you, your own personal street sign. This sign measures 36" x 6" and is made out of heavy metal. The background is white with the "DeLorean Drive" in bright red enamel. Now you can mark your personal parking place, or decorate your home or office wall, with this unique street sign.

DELOREAN DRIVE sign cost \$18.00 plus \$5.00 shipping

DeLorean MOTOR CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.

PLATINUM PLUG

DMCA now carries a new 99.9% Platinum Center Electrode, the Ultimate Spark Plug.

FEATURES:

- 99.9% platinum center electrode sintered into insulation.
- Center electrode flush with surface of insulator.
- Center electrode .3 mm diameter for longer insulator nose.
- Tapered ground electrode.
- Platinum's melting point (3200°F) is higher than any other metal used in spark plugs.
- Electrode gap remains virtually unchanged vs. copper core throughout its service life.
- Lower ignition voltage requirement vs. copper core - thus greater ignition energy reserve.
- Insulator nose 30% smaller in diameter and tapered ground electrode provides improved fuel mixture accessibility.
- Wider heat range vs. copper core reaches self-cleaning temperature only seconds after the start.
- Heat rating of the plug remains constant throughout its service life.
- No air gap around electrode, therefore, no compression leaks.

BENEFITS:

- Maintenance-free -- no need to clean and regap.
- No misfiring during extended stop and go operation.
- Smooth engine running under lean fuel/air ratio operating conditions.
- Reliable cold weather starting or starting with a weak battery.
- Smooth idling at low idle speed.
- Lowered fuel consumption and exhaust emissions throughout service life

Cost of 6 spark plugs \$24.00

CHANGING CONNECTIONS

The following article was submitted by DMCA member, Thomas Brennan.

My car would not restart after it warmed up and was turned off. This went on for some time, it would work great for awhile and then stop.

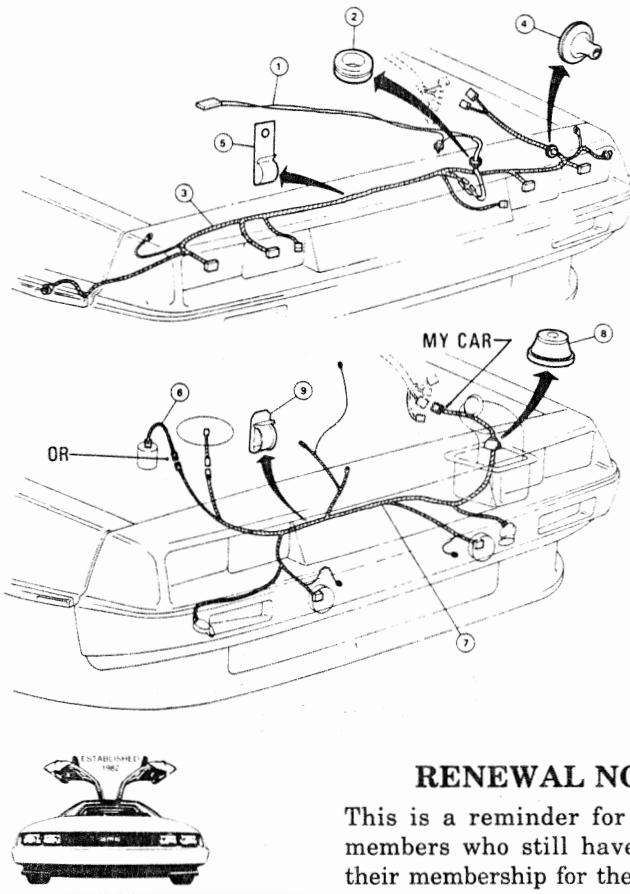
The answer for me was not the fuel pump, but the wires that go to the fuel pump. At the junction of wires located in the front fender (see illustration) there is a connection with four leads, of which two go to the fuel pump. At this point, the connection would overheat when the car was warm, thus not sending enough current to the fuel pump to allow the car to start. At the same location, another junction with only two wires going in and

out, was also replaced. This was a job finding, but simple after.

These connections can be purchased at any auto store. However, make sure they are large enough to carry the electrical load.

We wish to thank Mr. Brennan for his input and we hope that it has been of help to other DMCA members.

We would like to encourage other DeLorean owners who have interesting and useful information about their cars, to share it with others through the De Gull Wing. Submit your articles to DMCA, P.O. Box 2556, Huntington Beach, CA 92647.



RENEWAL NOTICE

This is a reminder for those DMCA members who still have not renewed their membership for the 1985/86 year. Membership entitles you to receive our newsletter, DE GULL WING, free technical information, and discount prices for parts. Our current membership year began July 1, 1985 and runs through June 30, 1986.

In order for you to retain your membership number and club benefits, please submit your \$35.00 fee today. Send payment to DMCA, P.O. Box 2556, Huntington Beach, CA 92647.

DATA

De Gull Wing is published by DeLorean Motor Club of America, Inc., P.O. Box 2556, Huntington Beach, CA 92647. Subscription is part of DMCA membership dues and is mailed only to paid members. Member communications regarding address changes or chapter information should be addressed to the Executive Secretary at the above DMCA address.

Manuscripts, photographs and art will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope bearing sufficient postage. Photographs should be 8-inch by 10-inch glossy black and white. Manuscripts must be typewritten to be considered, and should be double spaced on one side only. Articles of a technical nature are especially popular but ALL articles will be given equal importance.

LETTERS TO DE EDITOR

"When did they change over from Craig radios to ASI?"

Rich Kuzma

Dear Rich,

Approximately the first 5,000 cars were equipped with the Craig radios. From 1982 on, they installed the ASI radios. However, there were a few exceptions in the 1981 cars where they experimented with the ASI.

de Editor

"In response to Jim Russell's letter concerning the service counter, you mentioned that it triggers the "Lambda" light on the instrument panel. You did not mention how you reset the service counter, and turn out the "Lambda" light."

Richard Fleming

Dear Richard,

The service counter is located above your left foot, when you are sitting in the driver's seat. There are two phillips screws which hold it in place. Remove these. On the side of the counter, you will find a 1/4 inch red dot and two small holes. Take the tips of a pair of needle nose pliers and insert these into the holes. Turn in a counterclockwise direction until the counter returns to zero. The light should go out automatically.

de Editor

"I recently had a problem with my DeLorean which I would like to share with other owners, as it may help them to avoid some expensive repairs. This problem developed due to the wires of the alternator rubbing on the edge of the bracket which connects the muffler to the engine. The wire eventually wore through causing the engine wiring harness to short and burn out. Cost for labor and parts to replace this was \$510.00. Fortunately, this can be easily avoided by other owners by checking to be sure that the wires to the alternator are protected in this area."

Paul M. Taylor

Dear Paul,

Thank you for sharing your problem with us. It is always nice to learn ~~entative~~ measures from the voice of ~~rience~~.

de tor

"There is a vexing electrical problem that I need help with. Intermittently, the door lock switch on the driver's side will not lock the passenger's side, but does unlock it. The glove box light intermittently does not work. The delay mechanism for overhead lights never works when either door is closed. However, if the door is open and shut twice in succession, the delay mechanism works. The latter two problems do not really bother me, but I thought they might be related to the malfunction of the lock mechanism.

Another question - the notched drive belt broke, and the dealer replaced it with a solid belt, claiming that there would be no difference in operation or durability. Is it fact or fiction?

Lastly, and perhaps the most important problem concerns the rack and pinion steering. About six months ago, after a hard left turn, it became extremely difficult to steer the car into a right turn. There was much resistance which would finally give way half way through the turn. The dealer checked it out, lubricated whatever needed grease (I noted globs of grease outside the protective boot on the driver's side) and all worked well for about a month. The same problem recurred, but corrected itself after a long spiral up-hill drive in one of those tight garages that plague Eastern cities. There has been no problem whatever this summer, and several front-end "specialists" don't know what to do short of replacing the entire rack and pinion system. I have been

reluctant to do this, but I don't want to be driving it as-is, if it is unsafe.

Thank you for your expert advice in the past and your help with these current problems".

P.J. La Ruffa, M.D.

Dear Dr. La Ruffa,

In regards to your door locking problem, it sounds like you may have a bad solenoid in the right side.

Your lock and your light mechanisms are two separate functions. Check the connections and the bulbs in your glove box and to the overhead lights. Another cause may be that the buttons in the glove box and on the doors may be sticking, and are released the second time the door is closed.

Replacing the notched belt with a solid belt will cause no harm. Just be sure to check the belt adjustment for proper tension.

I suggest replacing the rack and pinion, due to the fact that it is a sealed unit which cannot be serviced.

de Editor

"Just wanted to write and thank you for your help with my transmission problem. The Comparative Governor assembly was the problem!"

V.J. and Linda Boudreaux

Dear V.J. and Linda,

We are glad that we could be of service to you. Thanks for the note.

de Editor

DISCLAIMER

While it is a primary service of the DeLorean Motor Club of America, Inc. to disseminate technical information, any maintenance technique or possible modification published in *De Gull Wing* should be weighed against conventional, traditional, and generally-accepted techniques and modifications. *De Gull Wing* should not be considered the authority on maintaining or improving DeLoreans and the views expressed are those of the author of an article or person quoted. Although research has proceeded each article, the mention of a product, service or procedure herein does not constitute endorsement of it by the Club, its officers, employees, or *De Gull Wing*. Prudent owners should consider possible techniques or modifications in light of common sense compromises among economy, longevity, performance, reliability, driveability, legality, and resale value. Any modifications possibly affecting emissions or safety are the sole responsibility of the person performing them and when such possible modifications are presented in *De Gull Wing*, it is also incumbent upon the owner of a DeLorean to consider the effect of any changes in his vehicle upon any warranty in force before undertaking any technique or modification. Failure to do so could result in denial of warranty coverage by DeLorean Motor Company. This publication and this organization **WILL NOT ASSUME LIABILITY** on any such consequences.

ADVERTISEMENTS

De Gull Wing will publish two short (40 words or less) free classified advertisements for members in a calendar year. Additional ads and those ads placed by non-members must be accompanied by \$50 each. Ads in excess of 40 words will be subject to editing. Include membership number and complete name and address with your ad. Mail to: ADS-DMCA, P.O. Box 2556, Huntington Beach, CA 92647.

For display advertising rates call Tuesday or Thursday only, 10:00a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at (714) 847-9940. Collect calls will not be accepted.

FOR SALE: DeLorean, #2098, 5 speed, 6500 miles, original, \$20,000. Separate gas door on hood, other early limited production features. No wind noise, no flaws. Pampered and garaged. Properly stored last 2 years. All manuals, diagrams. David Waller (502) 695-3304, Tom Waller (404) 256-5338.

FOR SALE: DeLorean Used Parts: Frame, engine, grey pass. side seat, doors, hoods, front fenders, T-roof sections. Some body parts have slight but fixable damage. Also misc. parts. Please call for prices (617) 659-4621.

FOR SALE: 1981 DeLorean, 5-speed, 30K+ miles. New speedo drive, BAE Turbo, excellent condition, new window motors, shop manual, car cover and floor mats. Asking \$22,500. (804) 855-1199.

FOR SALE: 1981 DeLorean, mint condition. 5,541 miles, production #1419, 5-speed, car cover, accent side stripes, silver sheepskin covers. Always garaged and covered. \$19,500. (702) 329-8686 days; (702) 359-3210 evenings.

FOR SALE: 1981 DeLorean, 5-speed with black leather. Brand new, with 400 actual miles. VIN #957 (457th car built). Car has been in garage storage since purchase. All updates performed during warranty period \$25,000. (602) 942-7216 Evenings.

FOR SALE: (1) DeLorean car cover. \$65.00. (1) right angle drive for speedometer. \$60.00. (1) 36" Speedometer cable. \$20.00 Write to Tom Hilinski 2841 Gilham St. Philadelphia, Pa. 19149.

FOR SALE: 1981 DeLorean, VIN number 5647, cover, mats, luggage rack, 12,000 miles, excellent condition with all bugs worked out. 50,000 mile warranty,

\$19,000. Reason for selling: purchase of another DeLorean of earlier vintage. Maryland (301) 730-9091 office, (301) 992-7447.

FOR SALE: 1983 DeLorean #6694. Excellent condition, 5-speed, 6700 miles. \$16,500. (513) 593-8984 Ohio.

FOR SALE: 1981 De-Bugged DeLorean, excellent condition throughout, new tires, new brakes, only 20,000 miles. Call and haggle a bit. Bernie (619) 429-5311.

FOR SALE: 1981 DeLorean. Low production No., low mileage, 5-speed stick transmission, black upholstery. \$17,500. Phone (504) 654-8200 after 6:00 Central Time. (504) 774-1992.

FOR SALE: 1981 DeLorean, automatic, approximately 16,000 miles, grey interior, custom stereo, air conditioning, great condition. (309) 674-6013 Parsons. (\$16,500.00)

DELOREAN MOTOR CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.

Club Business Can Be Discussed By Dialing

(714) 847-9940

Tuesdays or Thursdays

10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. - CALIFORNIA TIME

(Collect calls will not be accepted)

Messages and orders may be placed on our

24 HOUR RECORD A CALL

DMCA

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Huntington Beach, CA 92647

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